WHO IS GOING TO WIN THE OSCARS?

MOORE WILL LIKELY SCORE FOR "STILL ALICE." PAGE 18

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The riot grrrls are back

Music. Almost 10 years after splitting up to pursue other projects, including "Portlandia," Sleater-Kinney is back on tour. We talk to singer/guitarist Corin Tucker about the emotional decision to get back together. PAGE 15

"It felt like we were experiencing a resurrection," Corin Tucker says of playing together again. / BRIGETTE SIRE

Bitter cold no match for outdoor workers

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Fashion Week closes on a glam note

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Nets give Garnett a trip back to Minnesota

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Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 '5 ways to keep your kids from getting sick'

2 'Recipe: Ring in the Lunar New Year with Chinese red braised beef noodle soup'

3 'VIRAL VIDEO: Rap song soothes crying baby'

Get the latest

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Outdoor workers brave the elements year-round — bike deliverymen, food cart vendors and delivery people. / CARLOS LLAMAS, METRO

Bitter cold can't stop New Yorkers who work outside

Weather. Layering is key for street vendors and others who spend all day outdoors.

When temperatures drop, New Yorkers who work outside all day have no choice but to bundle up, get cracking and daydream about the spring.

The temperature Thursday morning, just before 10, was about 18 degrees, but a brisk wind made it feel closer to five below.

Anthony Diaz, 30, was about an hour into his day selling bus tour tickets on the corner of Broadway and Bowling Green.

"We're like warriors," Diaz said. "If things are functioning and running, we're out here. I'm not afraid of the cold at all."

Diaz, who has been working outside for about three years, said he knows how to dress to stay warm, and takes a break about every hour to warm up or grab a coffee.

"Today I have on Under Armour, pajama pants, sweatpants, a pair of jeans, two pairs of socks, three layer boots, two hoodies, two T-shirts, three thermals, one sweatshirt, one wifebeater and a spandex shirt on the bottom," Diaz said. "I'm pretty warm."

Boris Kaziyev, who was selling hot dogs, shish kebab and coffee from the comparative luxury of inside a food cart, said he just needs to wear two pairs of pants to stay warm on freezing days.

"I like the hot days, but I need to work," said the 10-year street cart veteran, who works five days a week.

Anthony Phillips, who stood gloveless outside the Bowling Green station directing tourists to the Statue of Liberty said it was his first winter on the job.

"I'm layered up, I got on two pairs of long johns, two pairs of pants, gloves and hat and I come out," Phillips said. "I don't leave until the last boat leaves at 4 o'clock."

Phillips, 58, said he's thankful for the work, because he used to be homeless and made his money panhandling on the trains.

"This is great excitement, I like this," Phillips said. "I don't want to do that [panhandle] anymore, when you can make an honest dollar."

Forecast

- **Friday:** High of 17 during the day with wind chill as low as minus-15, winds up to 30 mph. Overnight low of 5.
- **Saturday:** High near 30. Snow and freezing rain at night.
- **Sunday:** Rain and snow, high of 43.

Quoted

"I just wear sweatpants, jeans, good gloves and a scarf. ... I was going to wear my boots. Now I didn't, and my toes are cold."

Wayne Smith, 28, bike deliveryman from Brooklyn

"I'm warm, I have a space heater in here."

Rustam Rezai, 23, coffee cart worker

"People vacation and come all the way from Europe, Africa. They're not going to stay inside their hotel because it's cold. People save up five or six years; it doesn't matter what the weather is like."

Anthony Diaz, 30, sells tickets for bus tours

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Task force. Sights set on bad landlords

New York City and state leaders put bad landlords on notice Thursday when they announced a new task force that opens the door for criminal charges for tenant harassment.

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and Mayor Bill de Blasio stood together at the South Brooklyn Legal Services in Downtown Brooklyn as they decried displacement of long-time tenants by shrewd landlords who force residents out of rent-regulated units and replace them with market-rate tenants.

In fiscal year 2013, the city's housing court reported 752 tenant harassment complaints, de Blasio told reporters. Another 426 complaints have been filed since July 2014.

Housing advocates around town praised a crackdown on the unscrupulous landlords, even as the city's most prominent landlord trade group warned against intimidating and punishing all owners for the bad acts of a few.

Quoted

"We need enforcement of existing laws to preserve affordable housing for the poor and working families." Strasburg

"We need enforcement of existing laws to preserve affordable housing for the poor and working families, not politically driven schemes that would place the city on a road back to housing abandonment of the 1980s," said Rent Stabilization Association President Joseph Strasburg, in a statement to Metro.

Edward Josephson, of South Brooklyn Legal Services, defended the newfound threat of criminal litigation against abusive landlords.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Gung hay fat choy!

Manhattan's Chinatown got into the spirit of the Lunar New Year on Thursday.

CARLOS LLAMAS, METRO

Former Assembly Speaker

Silver formally indicted for extortion

A federal grand jury formally indicted former state Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver Thursday on the three charges he was arrested for last month.

The grand jury convened after crusading Manhattan US Attorney Preet Bharara charged Silver with pocketing almost $4 million in elaborate schemes for almost 15 years.

"Our client is not guilty," said Silver attorneys Joel Cohen and Steven Molo. "We can now begin to fight for his total vindication. We intend to do that fighting where it should be done — in court."

Silver was indicted on wire fraud, mail fraud and extortion charges, and faces 20 years in prison for each charge, if convicted.

In January, Silver stepped down after 20 years as speaker after holding the seat of power since 1994. The Assembly had re-elected him as speaker less than a month before his Jan. 22 arrest. At the time, Silver pleaded not guilty.

"The show-me-the-money culture of Albany has been perpetuated and promoted at the very top of the political food chain," Bharara told reporters after Silver's arrest.

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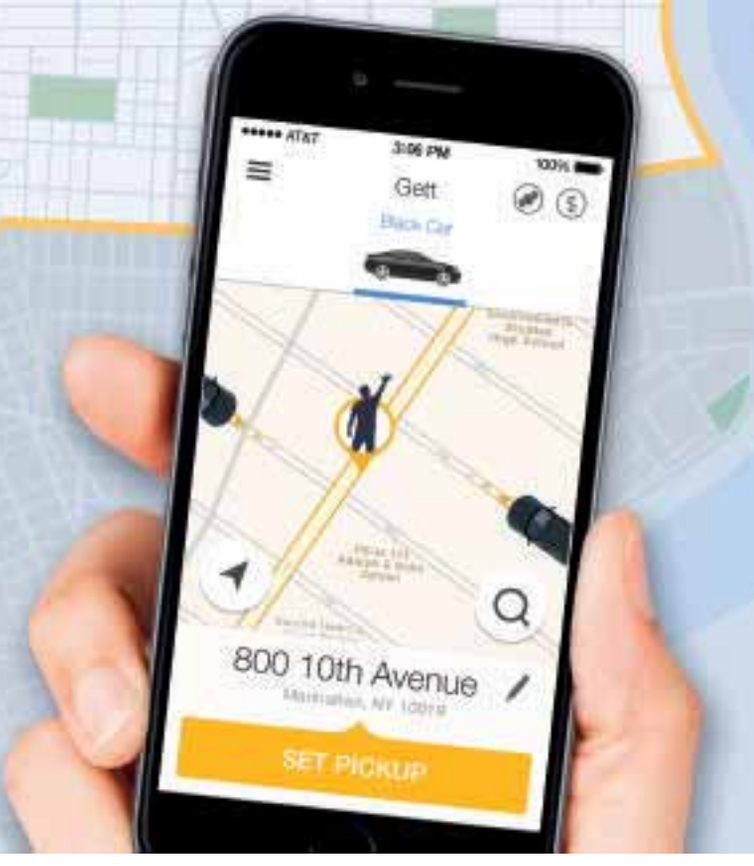

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City holds $1.6M from Defenders

Repercussions. In the wake of the anti-cop video, the legal aid group faces more pressure.

The Bronx Defenders / MILES DIXON, METRO

The embattled Bronx Defenders will not receive $1.6 million grant it was allocated last year by the City Council.

Capital New York first reported Thursday that the city agency that manages contracts with vendors and organizations would not disburse the money until the group was in full compliance with an agreed-upon plan that includes staff training after two attorneys appeared in an anti-cop rap video.

Bronx Defenders did not reply to Metro for comment, nor did the City Council, which the de Blasio administration said allocated the money to the legal aid group in 2014 and is unrelated to the latest budget for 2016.

The Bronx Defenders, which was created in 1995, receives about $20 million from the city to serve some 30,000 low-income and working-class residents in the Bronx every year.

Police union leader Pat Lynch previously called on the city to defund the group entirely over its role in the music video.

The video, which was uploaded to YouTube the day that a grand jury declined to indict a police officer for the alleged chokehold death of Staten Island man Eric Garner and days before two police officers were shot dead in Brooklyn, depicts a police officer with guns to his head.

"For Mike Brown and Sean Bell, a cop got to get killed," the lyrics read.

After an investigation by the city, the group agreed to a corrective plan that included the resignation of the two attorneys who appeared in their offices for the video and the suspension of the group's founder, Robin Steinberg.

The plan also called for training for its more than 200 staff members within 30 days of Steinberg's return from her 60-day suspension without pay.

CHESTER SORIA
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Etan Patz

Attorney: Confession proof of mental illness in Patz case

Parts of Pedro Hernandez's videotaped confession about strangling 6-year-old Etan Patz were replayed at his murder trial on Thursday, this time by his own lawyer.

Patz vanished as he walked alone for the first time to a school bus stop in his SoHo neighborhood in 1979.

The defense says the confession was coerced from a mentally ill man.

REUTERS

Brooklyn. Two men dead in unrelated daytime shootings

Two men were murdered in separate shootings in Brooklyn on Thursday, according to police.

Within only a couple of hours and a few miles apart, cops responded to the two shootings only to find both men bleeding to death in broad daylight.

NYPD responded to the first call at around 9:12 a.m. at a two story home on a tree-lined street in East New York. Officers found Demetrius Graham, 23, dead at the home on Bradford Street on the ground with a gunshot to his head.

Paramedics arrived only to declare Graham dead at the scene a mile away from his home on Cleveland Street.

Across the borough and five hours later, cops rushed to the Whitman Houses in Fort Greene at around 2 p.m.

First responders found the unidentified 20-year-old shooting victim bleeding with a gunshot to his chest inside a foyer in the public housing complex.

EMTs arrived shortly after and took him to the Brooklyn Hospital Center only four minutes away, where doctors declared him dead.

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Fighting rages in east Ukraine despite bid to revive truce

Hope. Western nations are refusing to give up on a peace deal brokered by France and Germany last week.

Ukrainian soldiers drive tanks along the road leading out of Debaltseve in Artemivsk, Ukraine. / GETTY IMAGES

Fighting raged in eastern Ukraine on Thursday despite European efforts to resurrect a stillborn ceasefire, a day after pro-Russian separatists spurned the truce by forcing thousands of government troops out of a strategic town.

Shelling continued near that town on Thursday, and local officials in government-held territory said rebels had also fired mortar bombs at another town farther south. Kiev fears they are massing for an assault near the major port of Mariupol.

Thousands of weary and demoralized soldiers withdrew from Debaltseve on Wednesday in one of the worst defeats suffered by Kiev during 10 months of fighting in which more than 5,000 people have been killed.

European and U.S. officials have expressed hope that the cease-fire will hold now that the rebels, fighting for territory Russian President Vladimir Putin has called "New Russia," have achieved their immediate goal of taking Debaltseve.

But Reuters correspondents outside the rebel-held town of Vuhlehirsk said artillery shells were still falling on nearby Debaltseve, though with less intensity than earlier this week. REUTERS

Residents

Pro-Islamic State militants seize Libyan university

Militants claiming loyalty to Islamic State have seized the university in the central Libyan city of Sirte, residents said on Thursday, days after a video showed them staging a convoy parade.

Islamist militants have made inroads into parts of the North African oil-producing country, exploiting a power vacuum created by a violent struggle for control between two competing governments.

On Monday, Egyptian planes struck suspected Islamic State targets in eastern Libya, after the group released a video showing the execution of 21 Egyptian Christians kidnapped in Sirte.

On Wednesday, Egypt and the official Libyan government asked the United Nations Security Council to lift an arms embargo and help build up the army to tackle the jihadists.

"The group took control of the university yesterday," a Sirte resident said, asking not to be named. A picture posted on social media showed an Islamic State flag at the university's entrance. REUTERS

Quoted

"Two days ago they had already seized the city's administrative complex and expelled all employees."

Sirte resident

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Five things you need to know

1 NSA says Sony attack traced to North Korea after software analysis

The National Security Agency (NSA) identified North Korea as the source of the recent cyberattack on Sony Pictures Entertainment after analyzing the software used in the intrusion, NSA Director Admiral Michael Rogers said.

Speaking to a Canadian security conference, Rogers explained that the discovery was part of the agency's efforts to develop software to counter cyberattacks.

"We ultimately ended up generating the signatures to recognize the activity ... used against Sony," Rogers said. "From the time the malware left North Korea to the time it got to Sony's headquarters in California, it crossed four different commanders' lines or areas in the U.S. construct."

Sony's network was attacked by hackers in November as the company prepared to release "The Interview," a comedy about a fictional plot to assassinate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The attack was followed by online leaks of unreleased movies and emails that caused embarrassment to executives and Hollywood personalities.

North Korea has described the accusation as "groundless slander."

Rogers said that cyberthreats are different from physical threats since they travel beyond geographical boundaries. **REUTERS**

ROGERS
GETTY IMAGES

2 Jobless claims fall as labor market gains momentum

The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits fell more than expected last week, offering fresh evidence that the labor market was gathering steam.

The labor market also got a boost from Wal-Mart which said it would spend more than $1 billion this year to increase pay for 40 percent of its U.S. workforce. **REUTERS**

Claims

283K

Initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 21,000 to a seasonally adjusted 283,000 for the week ended Feb. 14.

3 Hazmat team responds to LA courthouse over suspicious letters

A hazardous materials team was sent to a Los Angeles courthouse on Thursday over suspicious letters mailed to court personnel, but no evacuation was ordered and business continued without interruption, officials said.

The hazardous materials team from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is investigating the incident at the downtown courthouse, the department said in a statement. **REUTERS**

4 Hospital warns patients of drug-resistant superbug

A Los Angeles hospital has notified patients they were possibly exposed to a drug-resistant bacterial "superbug" during endoscopy procedures that infected seven patients and may have contributed to two deaths.

The 179 patients who may have been infected by the carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae are being offered home testing kits that would be analyzed by the University of California, Los Angeles, hospital system, UCLA officials said.

The possible exposures occurred at the UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center between October and January. **REUTERS**

5 Angry Birds maker to tailor games in China

Finland's Rovio will start tailoring its Angry Birds mobile games to the Chinese market with help from Beijing Kunlun as it aims to step up business in the world's most populous country.

While Rovio has expanded the hugely successful Angry Birds brand into merchandising and licensing business, it has struggled to produce more hit games and recently cut about 110 jobs, representing 14 percent of its workforce. **REUTERS**

ANGRY BIRDS

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Imaginary creatures seen in a good light

DARREN PEARSON/@DARIUSTWIN

Photography series

Dinosaurs born in light painting

Light can become a paintbrush that gives life to dark landscapes. 31-year-old L.A.-based artist and Instagrammer Darren Pearson has created stunning characters using long-exposure light painting techniques. Dinosaurs, unicorns and even aliens are some of what Pearson has spawned using his clever camera trickery.

MWN

Q&A

"Picasso inspired me"

What inspired you to do light painting?
I began light painting in 2007 after picking up a LIFE photo book and seeing this image of Picasso using light to draw a centaur in 1949. For me, the photo represented an intersection of two art forms: illustration and photography. This was my "eureka" moment.

What is the process to create the images?
The process is called light painting through use of long exposure photography. Basically, the camera is on a tripod at night, and I illustrate toward the lens with a torch. The camera picks up trails wherever I move the light. I can't see it, but I try and imagine what it will look like when I'm done.

How do you choose the right place to do light painting?
I usually look for areas like national parks, abandoned structures, or interesting geological formations. Often, I use satellite imagery to plan the trip — scouting at sunset — and begin shooting when the skies are dark.

Do you use special equipment to create the images?
I use a variety of tools to create the images — a self-made LED light-pen for the white lines, light attachments for the larger colored lines, and LED light-pods and gelled spotlights for coloring the environment.

INTERVIEW BY DANIEL CASILLAS/MWN

DARREN PEARSON, LOS ANGELES-BASED CREATIVE DIRECTOR

SEND IN THE FROWNS

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN

CNN=POLITICS

When I lived in New Orleans some years back I awaited Mardi Gras with a fever, and this past week I returned for a few days of parades, music in the streets and the finest food on the planet. I need this now and then like Frankenstein needs a date with the power plant, and my wife needs to see what's happening on "The Bachelor."

The unhinged joy of Carnival is an annual reminder of how to be happy, how brightly colored drinks can kick the teeth out of your head, and how some people really should keep their clothes on ... at least in the daylight.

But most of all, it makes people remember what it is like to have fun. Real fun. The kind that makes everyone think he or she is a good dancer, compels strangers to hug, and convinces everyone that an armload of cheap plastic beads is worth more than a Maserati full of Cristal.

This is why I think next year, as every presidential campaign is raging (and they will be, trust me) each candidate should take a couple of days to go to the Mardi Gras.

Hear me out. Think of many recent campaigns and ask yourself, "What have they been marked by?" (Go ahead. Do it. It will totally freak out the other people on the train!) The answer: Partisan bitterness, vicious attacks, and snarky comebacks. Their actual campaign slogans could be "Send in the Frowns." And yet, while this may make the strategists feel tough, whom do we elect? Candidates who make us feel good.

Ronald Reagan told excellent jokes. Bill Clinton had a warm smile. Barack Obama was all hope and change. And they seemed happy. And that made many Americans feel optimistic. And that's how you get elected these days.

True, New Orleans is not like any other city. But amid the flying beads, bras and bourbon just might be the secret to winning the White House.

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Accused bomber's lawyers say cannot get fair trial in Boston

Trail. Tsarnaev could face the death penalty if convicted, a fact that has also complicated jury selection.

The attorneys for the accused Boston Marathon bomber on Thursday asked a U.S. appellate panel to override a federal judge and order his trial moved out of the city, saying an impartial jury could not be seated so close to the site of the deadly 2013 attack.

U.S. District Judge George O'Toole has three times rejected pleas by Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's lawyers to move the trial out of the city where the bombing killed three people and injured 264.

"This attack was viewed as an attack on the marathon itself ... and an attack on the city of Boston," attorney Judith Mizner, representing Tsarnaev, 21, told the three-judge panel.

Tsarnaev / JANE FLAVELL COLLINS

Thousands of Boston-area residents were crowded around the race's finish line when twin bombs went off on April 15, 2013, and hundreds of thousands were ordered to remain in their homes four days later while police conducted a massive manhunt for Tsarnaev.

That degree of personal connection to the incident will make it very difficult to empanel an impartial jury in Boston, said Mizner, adding that would be less of a problem in other major cities in the United States. REUTERS

Quoted

"You aren't going to have people in Washington who say, 'My best friend was standing by the finish line.'" Mizner

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4 Reasons a beagle may not be for you

Best friend. The Westminster Kennel Club's top dog won't suit every owner.

The winner of this year's Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show was an adorable four-year-old beagle named Miss P. And like many other people after each year's winner is declared, you might be thinking that this is the breed for you. While owning a dog can be a great decision for your health — besides the regular walks, they lower your cholesterol, make you less likely to be depressed and stave off arthritis — a beagle comes with some unique challenges. Before you succumb to the urge to snatch up a pup to call your own, here are four things to consider.

MATTHEW LEE
@mattlee2669
matthew.lee@metro.us

Miss P's breed can be a difficult one for apartment dwellers. GETTY IMAGES

1 Beagles aren't the most soft-spoken breed

"Beagles are quite vocal," says professor James Serpell of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, before doing his impression of their trademark high-pitched howl. As hounds, beagles were originally bred to lead hunters on a trail and howl so they could be found. Maybe you should reconsider getting a dog that's well-known for its bark — unless, of course, you really hate your neighbors.

2 Beagles are very difficult to train

"Some dogs were selected to work closely with people, and typically those types of breeds are very trainable," like the border collie, Serpell says. "Whereas hounds typically don't really care very much about what the hunter wants; they just do what they do. ... We don't really expect them to do tricks." While Miss P earned her top spot partly for obedience, that likely took generations of selective breeding, as well as years of tireless training.

3 Your tiny apartment could be an issue

Confined spaces and limited time outdoors is a bad combination for any dog. "When dogs have more energy than they expend on a daily basis, they find other things to do to occupy themselves, and often those things are not what you want," Serpell warns. Weigh your decision against how much time and attention you're willing to invest beyond dressing up and taking Instagrams of your tiny Miss P clone.

4 They're not great with children

"Some beagles can be a bit obstinate; they don't like being pushed around," Serpell said frankly. "You do hear quite a lot of stories about grumpy older beagles snapping at kids and things like that, but I wouldn't say it's a uniquely beagle characteristic." So, if you're active, have a good amount of time and patience, relatively spacious real estate and no kids to get possibly nipped, then maybe a beagle is the right breed for you.

Stress. Pplkpr will delete your toxic friends

If a friend is stressing you out, is cutting them out of your life the logical step? Pplkpr thinks so. The smartwatch and app track which friends get your heart rate up — then take action.

Using a Bluetooth monitor and a GPS tracker, Pplkpr (pronounced "people keeper") analyzes your relationships by measuring your heart rate variability and stress levels to detect spikes in your emotions. Over time, the iOS app learns to "auto-manage your social life," blocking or deleting contacts it thinks are bad for your health and scheduling time to hang out with people who make you feel good.

Your needy friends are sapping more than your time. / ISTOCK

The app's Brooklyn-based co-creator, Lauren McCarthy, tells us the inspiration for Pplkpr came from the trend of wearables changing our behavior. "The idea of an algorithm tracking and managing your social life feels creepy, but what if it actually works?" she says. "What if it improves your emotional life?"

There's also a bigger question: Can quantifying our life go too far? "The app is a critical response to trends we see in quantified self, big data and surveillance, but we don't believe any of these things are black and white," she says.

Students at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh took Pplkpr on a test drive. No relationships ended badly because of the app, though there was one hiccup: "One pair of best friends who were using the app got blocked from each other because they were working on a group project that always stressed them out." So computers always don't know what's best for us — yet. ROBERT CANYARD

‘A little bit shocking to be a band again’

Interview. Corin Tucker talks about the unlikely reunion of Sleater-Kinney and the band’s new album, “No Cities to Love.”

“It’s [like] experiencing a resurrection,” Tucker says of playing together again. / ALL PHOTOS BY BRIGETTE SIRE

Earlier this month, when Sleater-Kinney took the stage for their first full show in almost a decade, singer and guitarist Corin Tucker felt overwhelmed.

“It’s a very physical thing to do Sleater-Kinney,” she says. The band, which also consists of guitarist and singer Carrie Brownstein and drummer Janet Weiss, went on hiatus in 2005. They’ve spent the past decade focusing on separate projects including, for Brownstein, “Portlandia.”

Oddly enough, the Sleater-Kinney reunion came about because of “Portlandia.” Brownstein was visiting Tucker to show her a clip from the current season that featured her son. The conversation naturally turned to music, and Tucker asked Brownstein, “Do you ever think we’re going to do that again?” We talk to Tucker about the emotional decision to revive the iconic band.

Before talk of a Sleater-Kinney reunion came about, when you and Carrie would see each other, was there any tension? Why was a reunion never mentioned before?
I think, at the time that we decided to go on hiatus, it was pretty clear that we wanted to do other things. I wanted to have a bigger family and Carrie wanted to try writing comedy. And it just felt like those were big aspirations that were outside the band, and we felt lucky that those things happened the way that they did. It went really well, and we were supportive of each other’s accomplishments. And those are not small endeavors. They take up a lot of time and space in our lives, so I don’t think we would ever do Sleater-Kinney in an offhand or half-assed way.

Was getting the band back together a spontaneous decision?
It was just in the moment. We were talking about music, and we had both played music with other people — I had a band, and Carrie and Janet played in Wild Flag — and honestly, it was just a thought that popped into my mind.

One of the most riveting things to watch onstage with Sleater-Kinney has always been the almost telepathic communication between band members.
Yeah, I mean, there definitely is that chemistry, and I think, just in the four shows that we’ve done, there’s already been a lot of that going on. I think the first show was almost like a little bit shocking to be a band again, in a good way! It definitely felt like we were experiencing a resurrection.

Some of the songs on the album feel like they’re about the three of you as a band. There’s that line in “Surface Envy,” where you sing, “We win, we lose, only together do we break the rules.”
The inspiration for that song was me thinking about how, when we did finally have the conversation of, “OK, we’re going to do this for real and make a whole new record,” that was a really intense moment. It was like, “Wow! Can I jump back into this career that I absolutely love that involves some travel?” And so it was really challenging for me, being a mom, but it’s what I love to do, and I just have to be super assertive about things and really good at planning things. It’s just all of the emotions that came from that conversation went into that song.

PAT HEALY
@metrousmusic
pat.healy@metro.us

Like riding a bike

Was there anything about your muscle memory that surprised you?

There were definitely songs that my hands would remember before my brain would. All of “Dig Me Out” my hands will remember because we played it so many times. But other songs that we did, like “Oh!” that for some reason, which is not that complicated of a song, I had to go back and relearn it.

Keeping it a secret

You began recording in 2012, and recording new music is something that takes up a big space in your mind and heart. I’d imagine it wasn’t easy to stay mum about it.

We weren’t that secretive about it. We would tell people what was going on when asked, and it was a “just between you and me, this is what’s going on” thing, so we told probably about 200 people, including Sub Pop. Everybody there knew for a while what was going on. It’s surprising to me that it didn’t get out more than it did.

Not your typical day job

How do you talk about Sleater-Kinney to your kids? Have they always known what it has meant to you?

I think that I try to explain to them that it’s my job and that I love doing it, and it’s different from other parents’ jobs. I have to travel for it and that’s hard for a family, but both parents should be able to work and do a career that’s important to them. We’re just trying to make it work for our family.

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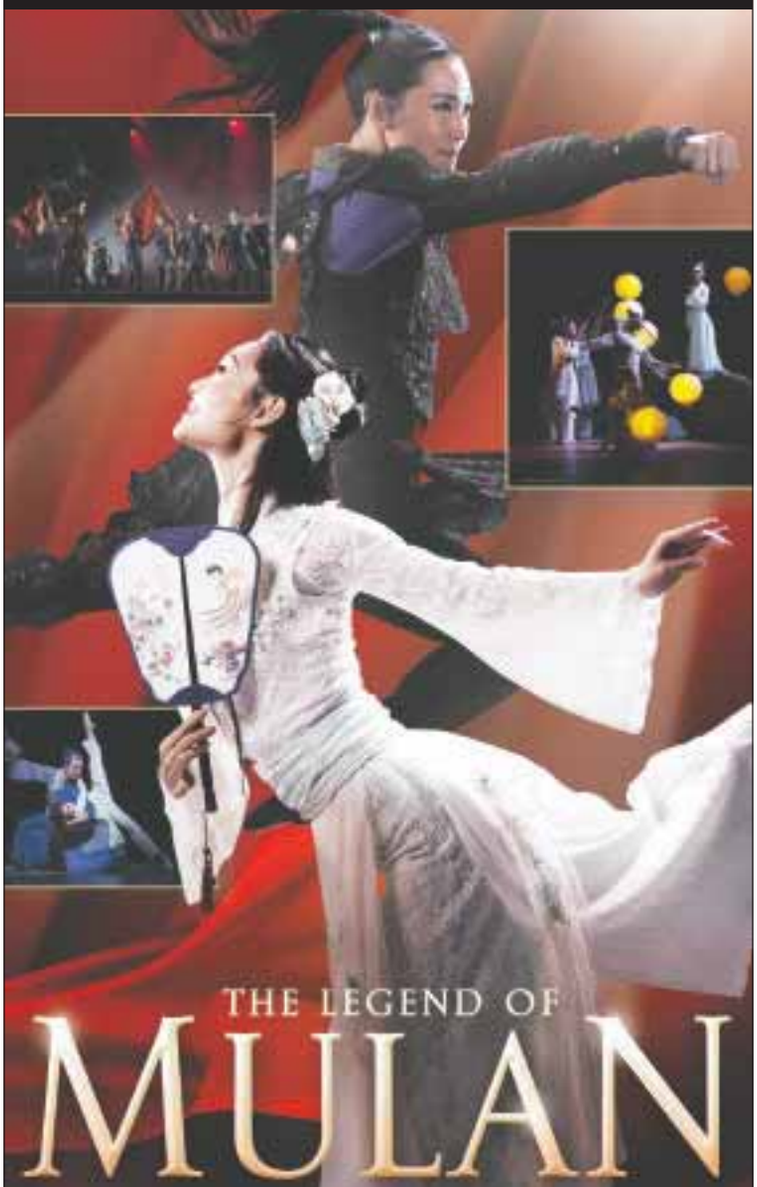

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'Heartbreak feels like it will last forever'

Leighton Meester went through her fair share of heartbreak before finding her happily ever after with actor Adam Brody. / PROVIDED

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Interview. Leighton Meester's new album isn't party pop. It's folkie, raw emotion.

Leighton Meester might have been a teen icon, but her past life as Blair Waldorf wasn't what made iconic singer-songwriter and producer Jeff Trot want to team up with her. Meester has put serious effort into her career as a musician, perfecting her voice and penning songs that range from the twangy title track off her new album "Heartstrings" to the doo-wopy song "L.A."

Starting young

"Whenever I was trying to amuse myself, I'd always write little poems or stories. I remember being seven and writing my own versions of songs," the 28-year-old Texan recalls. "It's always been something that's fun for me. That changed in my early 20s when I started looking at different music. Now, it's a connective tissue between my experiences and acceptance and expressing them."

Meester grew up on the category's classics — Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Paul Simon, Kate Bush — and their personal, heartfelt tone helped inspire her own songwriting process. "[My songs] are very much autobiographical, but don't assume they're literal," Meester says.

Silver lining

Why breakup songs are popular

Meester muses on why heartache is a popular topic: "Pain from love is difficult to describe and difficult to release in words. If you can find a way, it becomes universal. Heartache is like a song. It's there for a brief moment, but it feels like it will never end and is so permanent. A song is a flash of a moment that feels like a roller coaster."

Finding her vulnerability

As the album title implies, "Heartstrings" is about heartache, as Meester puts it. "Both the good and bad kind. It's very much an emotional record," she adds, "and definitely connected with my vulnerability and being sensitive, and needing a release. At the same time, there's the sense of laughter and being sarcastic in those less vulnerable moments. Having your heart broken is the most growing I've ever done; it's the most learning I've ever done. Then, you move past it."

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Who and what should win this year's Oscars

Trophies. The Oscars are this Sunday. But rather than waste your time with predictions we'll get wrong, here's something slightly more useful: what we'd pick, if anyone had asked us.

We hope "The Grand Budapest Hotel" wins Best Picture at the Oscars, airing Sunday at 7 p.m. on ABC. / FOX SPOTLIGHT

Picture

'The Grand Budapest Hotel'

Wes Anderson's latest is the kind of carefully crafted, completely realized vision that should be edging out heavy-hitters like "Boyhood" and "Birdman."

Director

Wes Anderson

Given that he's created his own style of filmmaking, it's frankly incredible Anderson hasn't won a directing Oscar before "The Grand Budapest Hotel."

Actor

Bradley Cooper

Hype demands Michael Keaton or Eddie Redmayne win this, but Bradley Cooper's steely and quietly anguished turn in "American Sniper" was one of the reasons Clint Eastwood's war drama was more complicated than its fans and detractors claim.

Actress

Julianne Moore

For once, every prognosticator seems to be in agreement, because no performance this year came close to this year's inevitable winner, Julianne Moore, for "Still Alice."

Supporting Actress

Keira Knightley

Let's hear it for Keira Knightley, who took what could have been a dull, throwaway supporting role in the war drama "The Imitation Game" and quietly ran away with the film, outshining even co-star and fellow nominee Benedict Cumberbatch.

JACK ENGLISH

Supporting Actor

J.K. Simmons

He may be only slightly less intimidating than his "Oz" Neo-Nazi, but J.K. Simmons' jazz instructor was still an intimidating portrait of the artist as sociopath.

Original Screenplay

'The Grand Budapest Hotel'

Anderson's films are constructed top-to-bottom, and the riots of pink and spot-on performances in "The Grand Budapest Hotel" are nothing without the solid foundation of its script.

Adapted Screenplay

'Inherent Vice'

If only because "Inherent Vice" isn't nominated in more categories, Paul Thomas Anderson should take this one. But he also did the impossible in bringing a Thomas Pynchon novel to the screen.

NED EHRBAR AND MATT PRIGGE

Drama. Kevin Costner is a white savior, again, in 'McFarland, USA'

In "McFarland, USA," Kevin Costner has much more screen time than the young racers he's training. / RON PHILLIPS

Based on a true story, of course, "McFarland, USA" tells of Jim White (Kevin Costner), a disgraced football coach who winds up in a poor Mexican neighborhood in California. There, he reinvents himself training a septet of poor kids into cross-country racing gods.

The lowdown: In last year's "3 Days to Kill," Kevin Costner made a spectacularly failed attempt to get in on Liam Neeson's "Peppy Fogey Fighting Romp" biz. This year, he's emerged with a type no one's doing: semi-racists who become white saviors to minorities. In "Black or White" he played an alkie who helped everyone navigate our country's modern racial landscape and also saved a junkie. In the far less questionable — which is to say still very, very questionable — "McFarland, USA," he saves Hispanic kids and learns what a quinceanera is.

That White will come around to their world is a given, but the film does treat his journey with more sincerity than most films of its ilk. It ties white assimilation into another world to class and race, unfolding in a country in which success means wealth and pulling one's self up by the bootstraps (i.e., escaping whatever hell from which you sprang). So that's the good thing, but the less good thing is that "McFarland"'s actual interest in the Mexican portion of its cast is superficial. Of the seven runners, only three get any personality, and even then they're mere types: the nice kid (Carlos Pratts), the ladies' man (Sergio Avelar) and the pudgy kid (Ramiro Rodriguez). "McFarland" goes relatively light on the "white people scared of others" scenes, though it winds up with the kind of nobility that is itself condescending and casually, unconsciously racist-ish. And the races aren't even well-shot. **MATT PRIGGE**

Review

'McFarland, USA'

Director: Niki Caro

Stars: Kevin Costner, Maria Bello

Rating: PG

Sequel. 'Hot Tub Time Machine 2' trades in laziness, gay panic jokes

Craig Robinson, Rob Corddry and Clark Duke are 10 years older in "Hot Tub Time Machine 2." / PARAMOUNT PICTURES

The boys of "Hot Tub Time Machine" (minus a mysteriously AWOL John Cusack) head to the future to find who shot Rob Corddry in the nuts. Wait, why would they go to the future to solve a murder that already happened?

The lowdown: "Hot Tub 2" is a completely different beast than the first, and yet it's the same kind of lazy. Granted, the indifference is part of the joke. And it's not an unfunny one; at its best, the series exploits its inability to give a crap for absurdity, with rules made to be ignored and broken. But it's not often at its best, falling back on lots of ad-libbing and gay panic jokes. In fact, there's an entire, quite long set piece revolving around gay panic, in which it's posited that the worst thing that could ever happen to a dude is having to pork another dude. It's not even making fun of this; the joke is watching our heroes cry and freak out over gay sex. Thing is, "Hot Tub" can be creative: The end credits sequence actually takes advantage of time travel, and Adam Scott, as Cusack's son from the future, brings silly pep to a film that yawns its way to an end. **MP**

Review

'Hot Tub Time Machine 2'

Director: Steve Pink

Stars: Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson

Rating: R

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Copeland's top moments

Swan Lake, Washington Ballet

In November, the Washington Ballet announced Copeland would be playing the role of Odette/Odile in "Swan Lake" in April — a huge breakthrough for an African-American performer in this typically all-white production.

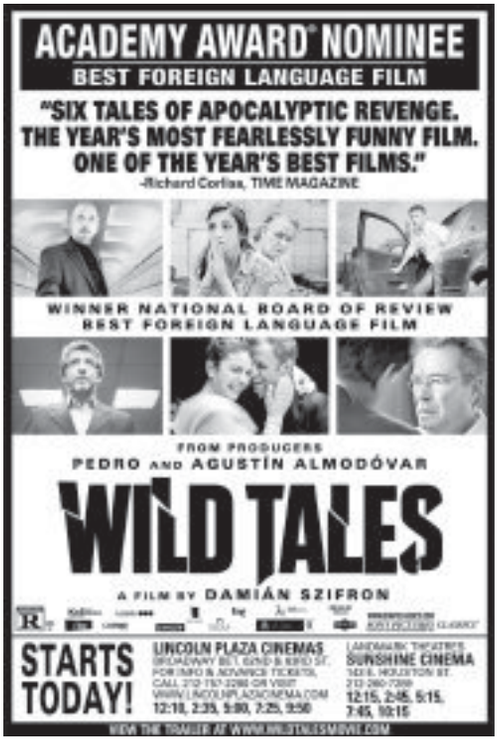
Prince's Welcome 2 America Tour

Copeland has collaborated with Prince multiple times, first in his video for "Crimson and Clover" and later joining the Purple One on stage during his massive tour.

RAQUEL LANERI
@metronewyork
letters@metro.us

Quoted

"I feel like the ballet world also wants to keep it this very private society. But, if you want more people to buy tickets, then you have to put yourself out there." Copeland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Ballet's breakout star: Misty Copeland

Interview. The dancer talks about being an "Unlikely Ballerina" and touring with Prince.

Copeland dances with the American Ballet Theatre. / GREGG DELMAN

"One day, you will tell your story," Misty Copeland's first ballet teacher told her shortly after a 13-year-old Copeland — gawky, living in a motel room with her mother and five siblings, and never having heard a piece of classical music in her life — waltzed into her first class at the local Boys and Girls Club near her home in San Pedro, California.

But, Copeland — now a soloist at NYC's American Ballet Theatre and one of the few black ballerinas dancing in a major company — didn't expect to tell it so soon.

"I always thought it would happen when I was retired," says the 32-year-old about writing her memoir, "Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina," which has just come out in paperback.

But the ballerina has made it her mission to introduce the dance form to as many people as possible, especially minorities. "It was really hard when I was first dancing at ABT, and I would wonder why there wasn't anybody who looked like me," says Copeland, who now mentors young minorities through programs like the Boys and Girls Club and ABT's Project Plié. She's also embraced pop culture, guest-judging on "So You Think You Can Dance," collaborating with Prince, and leaping, pirouetting and showing off her muscular physique in an Under Armour ad campaign that went viral this past summer.

Her activism — and the fact that Copeland is a passionate, elegant and technically dazzling performer — has made her the ballet world's biggest breakout star since Mikhail Baryshnikov.

"Ballet should open to everyone," says Copeland. "I feel like the ballet world also wants to keep it this very private society. But, if you want more people to buy tickets, then you have to put yourself out there."

If you go

Meet Misty Copeland and hear her discuss her book

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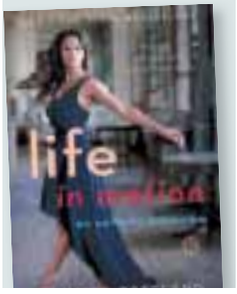

Dating is hard, here's how to move forward

It's time to stop wondering what might have been. / ISTOCK

Real-world love advice

CHARLES J. ORLANDO

TheProblemIsMen.com

Charles J. Orlando is a relationship expert and author of the best-selling book series "The Problem with Women ... Is Men." Find out more about him on his website, or visit him on Facebook for real-world love advice.

For exclusive commentary, visit **Metro.us/blogs.**

Perhaps your love life hasn't exactly worked out the way you'd planned. Maybe you've come through a rough marriage, you've had a number of challenging relationships with precisely the wrong partners, or situations in your love life have you thinking there isn't a match for you. In this age of social media, it's even more difficult because not only do you have your own feelings to contend with, but you also have an endless stream of engagement rings and pregnancy posts on your Facebook feed. All this does is cause you to reflect on a simple fact: You're not in a relationship right now, and love sucks.

I understand. Really, I get it. But please consider this: A relationship does not define you. It can complement you ... but it doesn't define you.

Maybe today it feels like all relationships are crap. I hear you. Being around others who are in the midst of enjoying someone else can conjure that. So, if you feel that way — do it. Feel the anger and bitterness that stem from a past relationship gone wrong. But while you're doing it, please recognize a couple of things:

Give yourself a time limit for your feelings

It's OK to be pissed off, but don't harbor those feelings for long periods of time. A closed heart not only breeds anger and resentment, it can never receive love.

Recognize that not all relationships are the same

Although it might feel like all men/women are all the same, they aren't. There are great men and women out there. Just because you don't have a date today doesn't mean that you will be loveless. Try to keep things in perspective.

Realize that broken hearts heal

But they don't heal through anger — they heal through recognition. They don't heal through regret — they heal through reflection. They don't heal through feelings of failure — they heal through acceptance. And moving on is not about blame — it's about surrender.

Stop regretting your past relationships

Even if your past relationships were bad or challenging, everything you have experienced has been prologue to this moment, and here you are still standing. Whatever has happened, you can't change it, and you can't forget it. Instead, embrace it and move on. Bottom line: Great love is out there, but it might not appear until you let go of your past.

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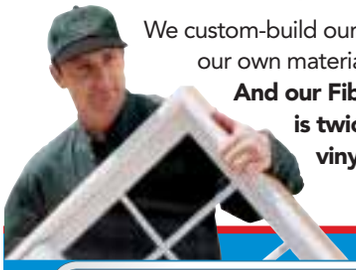

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Rugged and glam

Reviews

Ralph Lauren

The prairie babes who opened Ralph Lauren's show Thursday sauntered down the runway in lean, cozy knits, feathered skirts, faux fur vests and sweeping ponchos perfect for life on the frontier. But even pioneer women have parties to attend, and the show took a sharp turn trading in its soft textures and sandy colors for slick big-city-ready eveningwear. The black masculine suits (complete with ties) and slinky, held-by-a-thread gowns got the job done, but our hearts were still back on the range. **TINA CHADHA**

Marchesa

The St. Regis hotel's opulent chandeliers and ornate gold-framed paintings provided the perfect setting for Georgina Chapman and Keren Craig's seductive take on 1920s glamour. Sultry, flapper-inspired evening wear — including skin-baring dresses embellished with feathers, crystals, beads and swingy silk fringe — felt more modern and decadent than any poofy gown. Not a dress gal? Sexy, spliced tops paired with skinny black trousers provided the perfect alternative. We can't wait to see which one shows up on the Oscars red carpet. **TC**

Bibhu Mohapatra

Indian-American designer Bibhu Mohapatra sent out a beautiful collection of trim day dresses, rich furs and intricate ball gowns. The clothes had a sense of poetry, found in the slight drape detail in his fit-like-a-glove shifts or in the one lone Yves Klein blue stripe running down the side of a silver mink coat. Known for his eveningwear, Mohapatra has really stepped up his daywear game in the past few seasons, too: A paprika cutaway jacket worn with loose turmeric trousers, in particular, had swagger. **RAQUEL LANERI**

J. Mendel

You know those cozy ski sweaters we've seen popping up on the runways this week? J. Mendel had them, too, but his snowflake-patterned, hooded versions were done in mink. Of course, J. Mendel is a furrier — pelts are expected on the runway. And his customer is going to need them to throw over those halter-necked whisper-thin Studio 54 dresses done in red silk or smattered in sapphire sequins. Brrrr. **RL**

Anna Sui

Fashion's flower child had a decidedly less hippie-dippy muse this fall: vikings. But warrior shearlings and shaggy parkas proved a natural, cozy fit with Anna Sui's signature exuberantly patterned dresses and boho vibe. The knit Valkyrie hat, worn with a "celestial silver" sequined dress and faux fur cape that closed the show, was a nice, whimsical touch. **RL**

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Nanette Lepore

As Bikini Kill's "Rebel Girl" blared over the speakers, models stomped down the runway in military-meets-boho get-ups: sailor pants, wool capes and riotously printed frocks, all worn with glittery platforms for a David Bowie vibe. It was a fun, grrrl-powered show that had everyone in the audience — including the designer's pal Steve Buscemi — smiling and singing along. **RL**

Horoscope

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
Your warmth will be an asset to a benevolent or charitable cause. Assisting elderly people will intensify your sympathetic nature.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
An opportunity to make money or raise your earning potential is within reach. Keep track of your expenditures and leave enough leeway in your budget.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Be a participant. Once you get involved in community affairs, you will be surprised at the number of interesting people you meet.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
If you have been exaggerating or spreading rumors, you will be accused of meddling. Keep busy doing something that is beneficial.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
Get involved in things that you enjoy doing. You will meet someone who will prompt you to think differently or will spark your imagination.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
Mixing financial and emotional issues can be costly. If your generosity is eating into your savings account, curb your spending.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
A partnership will be on shaky ground if you don't make an effort to share your thoughts. Schedule time to discuss your plans.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Impress your superiors by putting in more effort. Prove how seriously you take your position by presenting your ideas for a more efficient workplace.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Cultural differences and philosophies will intrigue you. There is plenty of knowledge available on the Internet.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Don't get upset about things you cannot change. Emotional outbursts will not help you get along with others.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Someone you consider a casual acquaintance may have a more romantic motive in mind. Be honest about your feelings.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Financial gains lie ahead. An opportunity to change your profession should be considered. A minor health ailment should be checked out. EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	7				2			
		9				6		7
	4	6		1	5			
	2		4	8	6	3		
7				5				9
		1	9	3	7		2	
			8	6		4	3	
3		8				7		
			1				8	

5	9				1	3		6
			6	8			2	
					3	1		9
7			5			8	1	
				6				
	3	5			8			7
9		7	2					
	4			9	6			
6		2	3				9	1

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters to the editor

For the wrong reasons

Those anxious to hear Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu speak need to remember a couple things. First, there is no indication Iran is anywhere near weaponizing its nuclear research, never mind producing a working weapon. Second, Netanyahu or his office have already leaked details of the negotiations to the Israeli media, distorting key elements in doing so and undermining the sensitive diplomacy involved. Third, the GOP broke both diplomatic protocol and possibly federal law issuing this invitation in the first place. Finally, Speaker John Boehner has publicly admitted this was a purely political move.
JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA EMAIL

Not the meat of Lent

Re: 'Bible doesn't advocate for veganism' (Metro, Feb. 18)
The line that hurt me to the core: "There are abundant medical and ethical reasons to forgo meat without consulting inconsistent, inaccurate collection of Bronze Age folk tales." What does that the above statement have to do with Lent? According to my pastor, Lent is a period of time when you need to look inward. Do you say one thing and really mean something else? It has nothing to do with what you eat or don't eat. This is a time for inward contemplation. It is a time to get closer to God.
SHERALYN TINSLEY, VIA EMAIL

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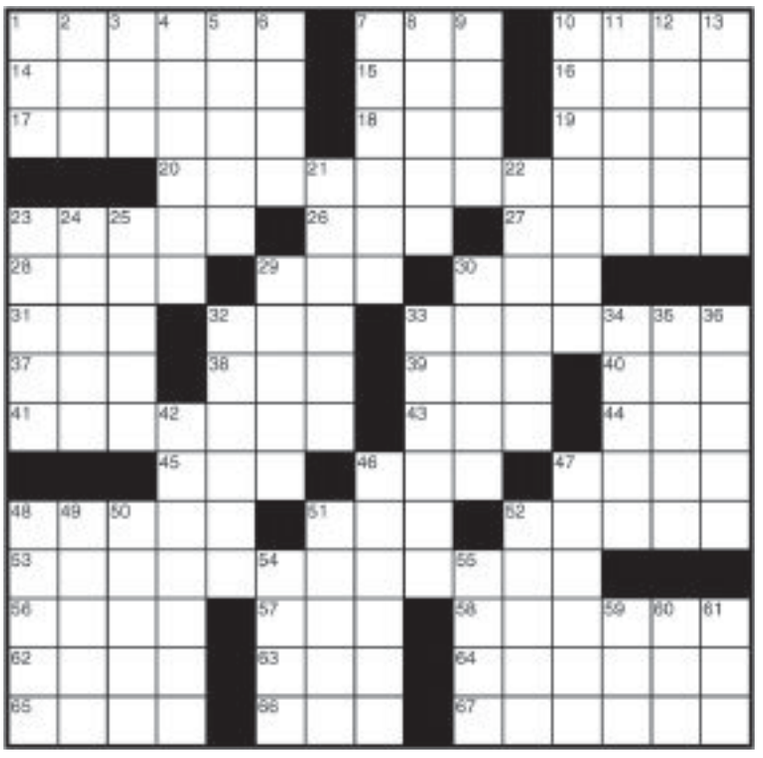
Crossword

Across
1 Summer wear
7 Chart shape
10 Night crawler
14 Baltimore baseballer
15 Electric bridge
16 Urn homophone
17 Weaken
18 Bleacher shout
19 "Faint heart — won ..."
20 Stifling yawns (3 wds.)
23 Tangles
26 Woodland creature
27 Squander
28 Tire supports
29 Sewing kit item
30 Quarry
31 Guitar, slangily
32 Wolf, say
33 Secures a horse
37 Quick turn
38 Strive to win
39 Gallery display
40 Iota
41 Kind of sale (hyph.)
43 Monkey with
44 Dog days in Dijon
45 Niagara Falls prov.
46 Neutral color
47 Mouse target?
48 Curly coifs
51 Soccer —
52 Survey course
53 Creepy feelings
56 Bank feature
57 Actor -- Wallach
58 Eaves hanger
62 Sheik colleague
63 Anderson Cooper's network
64 Strut
65 Arms the alarm
66 Toga-party order
67 Lure

Down
1 Install a lawn
2 Jackie's second
3 None
4 Questions
5 Low voices
6 Suggestive look
7 Inmate's hope
8 Burnt up
9 Nymph who pined away
10 Under
11 Locales
12 Sluggish
13 Close-mouthed
21 Fixed a manuscript
22 Singer Conway —
23 Cartoon cat
24 Undeliverable mail
25 Alpha opposite
29 Coat for a house
30 Evita or Juan
32 All the same (2 wds.)
33 Teahouse mat
34 Bounce
35 Generator part
36 Pool member of yore
42 Lodgers
46 Bearer's task
47 Stand firm
48 Cathedral parts
49 Physique
50 Update, as a factory
51 Kanga and Roo creator
52 Quechua speaker
54 Bottle top
55 Seine tributary
59 T'ai — ch'uan
60 Insect resin
61 Storm center



Thursday's answer

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3 SPORTS

NHL

Rangers should keep rollin'

The Rangers should be able to do some damage in the Metropolitan Division standings in the next week or so as they face the 16-37-4 Sabres on Friday in Buffalo (7 p.m., MSG) and the 25-27-3 Blue Jackets on Sunday (7:30 p.m., MSG) at Madison Square Garden. The Blueshirts will also see a so-so Calgary squad and a poor Arizona team next week at home.

Nets empower Garnett reunion in Minnesota

NBA. Brooklyn lands Thaddeus Young in a wild trade day across the league.

Kevin Garnett's brief career in Brooklyn ended Thursday. / GETTY IMAGES

A broken-in Kevin Garnett won a title in Boston and was shipped to Brooklyn to do the same. While he earned playoff victories in both locations, the legacy of "KG" has always been centered in Minnesota or, as Garnett long referred to it, "Sota."

"The Big Ticket" will now return to the place where his Hall of Fame NBA career began after he waived his no-trade clause Thursday. The Nets obtained forward Thaddeus Young in a deadline day swap for Garnett, according to Yahoo.

Young is averaging 14.3 points and 5.1 rebounds per game this season. The 6-foot-8-inch forward was originally drafted by Nets GM Billy King when King was in charge of the Sixers. Young, the 12th overall selection in the 2007 NBA Draft, has a player option for 2015-16 worth $9.7 million.

The Knicks were also active at the deadline, sending guard Pablo Prigioni to Houston in exchange for guard Alexey Shved and two second-round draft picks. Shved is a Russian combo guard who also spent time with the Timberwolves and 76ers.

Several major deals went down across the league, including Suns guard Goran Dragic and his brother Zoran Dragic being traded to Miami in exchange for Danny Granger, Justin Hamilton and two first-round picks.

The NBA's reigning rookie of the year, Michael Carter-Williams, was also traded. Carter-Williams, Miles Plumlee and Tyler Ennis landed in Milwaukee as part of a three-team trade that saw Brandon Knight head to Phoenix and draft picks head to Philadelphia.

By the numbers

16

The average number of wins this season between the T-Wolves and the Nets. Thaddeus Young actually has a chance to help the Nets to the playoffs, however, as Brooklyn is just a game back of the 8-seed in the East.

MATT BURKE
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NFL

Another twist in Deflategate

The NFL has its own issues when it comes to ball control.

Earlier in the week, ESPN's Kelly Naqi raised suspicions that a Patriots employee attempted to "introduce" a special-teams-only "K-ball" into scrimmage play during the AFC Championship Game between New England and Indianapolis.

A day after Naqi's report, fellow ESPN reporter Adam Schefter wrote that the Patriots employee in question was actually handed the ball by an NFL employee.

The NFL employee reportedly has been fired by the league for selling game-used footballs, which were meant for charity, for profit.

The NFL's investigation, led by attorney Ted Wells, into the original "Deflategate" story is expected to be finalized sometime in March.

MATT BURKE

FANTASY BASEBALL: DON'T FORGET THE YOUNG GUNS

It's too late on Anthony Rendon, Jose Altuve and Nolan Arenado. Those youngsters have already broken out, meaning we'll have to pay more than fair market value to land them. The key to your fantasy baseball draft will be finding the next crop of players on the verge of making a leap. We can go hunting for these guys in the middle rounds, after we've secured safer assets early on. Here are 2015's breakout candidates:

Spring forward

Everyone in your league knows of George Springer after he hit 20 homers in 78 games as a rookie last year. Not everyone will realize how good he can be as he only stole five bases and hit .231. As a minor leaguer in 2013, the Astros right fielder hit 37 homers and stole 45 bases — part of 87 steals in 287 games. He was also a .302 hitter in the minors, giving us hope he can raise his big-league average closer to .260 despite all the strikeouts. Springer is worth taking in the fourth round of drafts so we can get in early on a future superstar.

George Springer enters his second MLB season as a hot item in fantasy leagues. / GETTY IMAGES

Rocky road

Drew Pomeranz was a highly touted prospect coming out of Ole Miss in 2010 and went fifth overall to the Indians. Unfortunately for him, he was traded to starting-pitcher hell (Colorado) in 2011 as part of the Ubaldo Jimenez trade. Pomeranz was predictably a fantasy liability during his two-plus years in the Mile High City, posting a 5.20 ERA across 136 2/3 innings. But he was set free last year when the A's traded for him and he rewarded their faith by going 5-4 with a 2.35 ERA. Now set for a full season in the pitcher-friendly AL West, Pomeranz is a fine mid-range fantasy starter.

Joc strapped

Now that Matt Kemp is in San Diego, Joc Pederson will have every chance to win the Dodgers' starting gig in center this spring. If he does it, he'll be one of the league's best sleepers. Pederson dominated Triple-A last season, hitting .303 with 33 homers and 30 steals — flashing his versatility and five-tool ability. Even if Pederson scuffles in the spring, his ability to play all three outfield spots and run the bases will lead to playing time. He's a rookie to watch very closely come March.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1282126 for On Premise Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 39-07., Corona, NY 11368, for on-premise consumption. Estrella Latina Del Caribe Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition for Progetto, Inc. to continue to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 352 West 44th Street in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of four years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1284150 for On Premise Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to Sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 145 East 61st Street, New York, NY 10065, for on-premises consumption. Mana Parc LLC d/b/a Gina La Fornarina

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE in accordance with New York City Administrative Code as required by §§20- 282 and 20-283, the following public auction will take place: Post-War & Contemporary Art, Feb. 21, 2015, 12 pm EST, New York, Auction No. 173, 124 items, NYC Auction House License Number: 2017571-DCA. Auctionata reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time for any reason.

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number TBA for Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 558 11th Ave., New York, NY 10036 for on-premise consumption. La Vela Ristorante Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1284060 for On Premises Beer & Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer and Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 250 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 for on premises consumption. Oaxaca Fourth LLC

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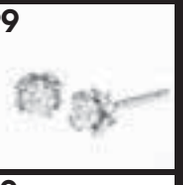

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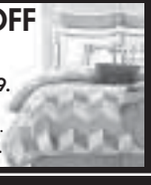

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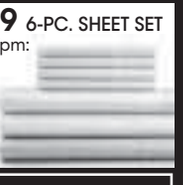

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